

Volume No. 1 - Policies & Procedures	TOPIC NO. 10205
Function No. 10000 — Overview	TOPIC AGENCY RESPONSE TO APA AUDIT
Section No. 10200 — Financial Management	DATE June 1998

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Overview

Introduction Audits of most State agencies and institutions are performed by the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA). An audit report is issued at the completion of the audit and includes the audit opinion and any management letter deficiencies. In partial fulfillment of its statutory responsibilities, the Department of Accounts (DOA) requires that agencies and institutions develop and file with DOA a response to the APA audit including a corrective action workplan to address the Auditor's concerns.

Policy Agencies are responsible for developing corrective actions to address audit comments cited in the audit reports received from the APA. Management should closely monitor corrective actions to ensure that they are performed timely and achieve the desired results.

Audit Response Procedures

All Agencies Upon receipt of an APA audit report by an agency, the agency head or agency designee will provide the State Comptroller with a written response to the report within 30 days of the date of receipt. This response will include a workplan for corrective actions to be taken and must address all deficiencies noted.

The response will include, at a minimum, a workplan that

- summarizes the audit findings,
 - summarizes the proposed corrective actions and specific deliverables that will result from the proposed corrective actions,
 - presents target dates for the completion of corrective actions, and
 - names the person(s) or position(s) responsible for implementing corrective actions.
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Audit Response Procedures, Continued

Each agency will also transmit a copy of the response within 30 days to the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, the appropriate Cabinet Secretary, and two copies to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

DOA will complete an evaluation of the response and, if the response is considered inadequate, the agency will be notified by DOA and will be responsible for preparing and submitting a revised response within 15 days from the date of notification. Copies of the revised response should also be sent to the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, the appropriate Cabinet Secretary, and the Auditor of Public Accounts.

If requested by the DOA, agencies must prepare periodic reports updating the status of audit comment resolutions. Reports may also be requested on the status of outstanding questioned costs.

Single Audit Agencies

Agency responses to audit comments will be included in the Statewide Single Audit Report. Responses should be concise and well documented. An executive summary is required for each agency response to an audit comment that exceeds one page. Additionally, agencies are requested to submit a copy of their corrective action workplan on a diskette to the APA.

Federal Recipient Agencies

Federal Recipient agencies **should not** forward copies of their audit reports or corrective action workplans to Federal grantor agencies. However, if an audit of a Federal Recipient Agency is deemed "severe," the APA will apprise that agency of the audit's severity and of possible actions to be taken.

Internal Control

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Refer to CAPP Topic No. 10305 — Internal Control.

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Records Retention

Time Period Records of fiscal activity, such as audit reports, corrective action workplans, and supporting documentation, should be retained for a period of at least three years. The retention period generally starts at the date of the audit report.

For pending, ongoing, or unresolved litigation, audits or claims, retain documentation until completion, resolution, or negotiation of settlements and retain according to standard schedules. The retention period generally starts at the date of resolution, completion, or negotiation.

Destruction of records must be in accordance with policies and procedures of the Records Management Section, Virginia State Library and Archives. (See CAPP Topic No. 21005, "Records Retention and Disposition.")

Contacts

DOA Contact Assistant Manager, Fixed Assets and Indirect Cost
Voice: (804) 225-2646
E-mail: finrept@doa.virginia.gov

Subject Cross References

References CAPP Topic No. 10305 — Internal Control

CAPP Topic No. 20605 — Federal Grants Management

CAPP Topic No. 21005 — Records Retention and Disposition
